



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

NEWS RELEASE

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DOE Presents Service Awards to Retiring Advisory Board Members

Six members of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) completed their service to the volunteer organization and were presented awards of appreciation by the Department of Energy (DOE) at the June 8 ORSSAB meeting.

ORSSAB is an independent, federally appointed citizens' panel that provides advice and recommendations to DOE on its Oak Ridge Environmental Management Program.



David Mosby, John Million, Bob McLeod, and John Kennerly (left to right) were recognized on June 8 for their service on the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board. Also completing service on the Board were Luther Gibson and Chris Smith.

Rotating off the Board after completing three terms of service are Luther Gibson, John Kennerly, John Million, and David Mosby. Robert McLeod served two terms on the Board and is relocating to Georgia. Chris Smith served one term on the Board and declined reappointment because of business and travel commitments.

In thanking them for their service, Steve McCracken, DOE's Assistant Manager for Environmental Management, said, "I express my sincere appreciation to you for the

contributions you have made over the last few years. It's a significant sacrifice for something that is very important to this community. I hope you will remain interested in what we are doing and continue to participate in ways that will benefit all of us."

Dave Mosby, who was recently re-elected to the Oak Ridge City Council, chaired the Board in 2003 and 2004. "I've enjoyed the years I've had on the Board. It's been enlightening. When I came on the Board I had this sense that the ORSSAB was basically rubber stamping what DOE was doing. I've come to learn that the ORSSAB is truly a dedicated group of stakeholders who learn the issues and deliver advice to DOE that is meaningful and valuable.

“And I’ve also learned how much DOE depends on the ORSSAB for input. DOE is truly interested in meeting the needs of stakeholders. The people in DOE’s Environmental Management Program are our neighbors in many instances, so they are as concerned about the cleanup and legacy of the Oak Ridge Reservation as we are.”

Knoxville resident John Kennerly, a retired chemical engineer who worked for Lockheed Martin Energy Systems, said that “The SSAB is one of the few open forum opportunities that private citizens have to provide input to DOE on the conduct of the environmental management planning and operation. Members of the Board have the obligation to ask fundamental questions of the rationale behind the ‘whys’ and ‘hows’ of how taxpayer dollars are being spent.

“Like other federal agencies that are obligated to have advisory boards under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, DOE would probably prefer not to have members of the public in such a watchdog position,” he said. “However, it seems the current Oak Ridge Environmental Management Program is more open to accepting input than during the management of past years.

“I consider it a privilege to have served.”

Other retiring members include Harriman resident Luther Gibson, who was the chair of the ORSSAB in 2001 and 2002 and is the 2004-05 chair of the East Tennessee Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association. Gibson works for BWXT Y-12 in the Analytical Chemistry Organization and has been employed by DOE contractors for 28 years in the environmental technologies field.

John Million is a retired chemist who worked at the former K-25 site. He is a member of Oak Ridge’s Woodland Neighborhood Association, which is near the Y-12 National Security Complex. He plans to continue to serve on the Board’s Stewardship Committee, which he chaired in 2003.

Bob McLeod, also of Oak Ridge, is recently retired with more than 30 years experience in engineering management and environmental work. He has managed a number of DOE projects, including two remedial investigation/feasibility studies and the program to implement the DOE Hazardous Waste Remedial Actions Program.

Christopher Smith lives in Decatur and is a self-employed computer consultant specializing in database and geographical information system consulting. He is a former foreign service officer and serves on the Meigs County E-911 board.

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